



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Department for the Aging

Julie Christopher, Commissioner

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COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Department for the Aging
Julie Christopher, Commissioner

MEMORANDUM

TO: Directors,
Area Agencies on Aging

FROM: Julie Christopher,
Commissioner

DATE: May 31, 2006

SUBJECT: Proposed Dates for Community Conversations on Aging

As you know, our four-year **State Plan for Aging Services** will need to be updated, signed by Governor Kaine, and submitted to the Administration on Aging for approval in August of 2007. I hope to make the 2007-2011 Plan a more visionary document that will include specific priority areas that can guide our network into the future.

Working together with you, V4A, and AARP, I propose that we develop and host eight (8) *Community Conversations on Aging* around the Commonwealth. These “conversations” will be structured to obtain input from you and your boards, older constituents, AARP members, community service providers, baby boomers, community leaders including local elected officials, state legislators, members of your Congressional Delegation, and others who are concerned about how Virginia is planning to meet the long-term care needs of a growing older population. This input will become part of Virginia’s next State Plan and will help to develop priority areas and strategies that can guide our network for the next four years. **These conversations will be held from 4:00 PM until 6:00 PM in an effort to attract the largest number of participants.**

I will need your help as we plan these conversations. I have attached a list of proposed dates and locations and would ask that you work with each other in your individual regions to locate an appropriate venue for the conversations, be prepared to invite key local elected officials, and to handle the logistics of each meeting including

someone to create a list of attendees. VDA will work with you to develop and distribute flyers advertising each session and will work with you to develop regional mailing lists.

In order to move forward with the process of planning the conversations, I am asking you to select a lead AAA director in your region who can work with Bill Peterson. Bill will be calling you the week of June 12th to begin working with you on the logistical details.

I am excited about holding these Community Conversations on Aging and for the opportunity to meet the advocates, policy makers, and leaders in your community. I am committed to working with you to craft a State Plan that identifies priority areas and proposes specific actions for addressing these areas.

c: The Honorable Marilyn Tavenner
Secretary of Health and Human Resources

Gail Jaspen
Deputy Secretary of Health and Human Resources

Eldon James, Executive Director
Virginia Association of Area Agencies on Aging

Bill Kallio, State Director
AARP

Attachment

Proposed Dates for the 2006 Community Conversations on Aging

Monday, **September 11** in Norfolk or Virginia Beach (location to be determined).

Tuesday, **September 12** in Hampton or Newport News (location to be determined).

Thursday, **September 28** in Northern Virginia (location to be determined).

Monday, **October 2** in Harrisonburg (JMU?).

Tuesday, **October 3** in Richmond (Ashe Center?).

Wednesday, **October 4** in Danville (location to be determined).

Wednesday, **October 11** in Southwest Virginia (Oxbow Center?).

Thursday, **October 12** in Roanoke (location to be determined).